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	APPLICATION NO.	FI	LING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
	09/776,629	(02/06/2001	Yoshio Sugimoto	1046.1238 (JDH)	7168		
	21171 7590 05/24/2004				EXAMINER			
STAAS & HALSEY LLP					BARQADLE, YASIN M			
	SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
WASHINGTON DC 20005					2152		,	

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Applicati	ion No.	Applicant(s)	1/
	•	09/776,6	29	SUGIMOTO, YOSHIO	V
•	Office Action Summary	Examine	r	Art Unit	
		Yasin M I	Barqadle	2153	
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this commu	nication appears on th	e cover sheet wi	th the correspondence address	
A SH THE - Exte after - If the - If NC - Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUI nsions of time may be available under the provision SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this cone period for reply specified above is less than thirty operiod for reply is specified above, the maximum are to reply within the set or extended period for repreply received by the Office later than three months ed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	NICATION. ns of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no expending the standard of the apply and very will, by statute, cause the apply after the mailing date of this control	vent, however, may a re tutory minimum of thirt vill expire SIX (6) MON plication to become AB	eply be timely filed y (30) days will be considered timely. THS from the mailing date of this communication ANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	^ n- n.
Status					
• —	Responsive to communication(s) fit This action is FINAL . Since this application is in condition closed in accordance with the practice.	2b)⊠ This action is a n for allowance excep	non-final. t for formal matt	•	S
Disposit	ion of Claims				
5)□ 6)⊠ 7)□	Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are allowed. Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected. Claim(s) is/are objected to. Claim(s) are subject to restrict the claim(s)	are withdrawn from co			
Applicat	ion Papers	·			
10)	The specification is objected to by the drawing(s) filed on is/ar Applicant may not request that any obgeneration graphs sheet(s) including the oath or declaration is objected.	e: a) accepted or b jection to the drawing(s) ng the correction is requi	be held in abeyar red if the drawing	nce. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). (s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
Priority	under 35 U.S.C. § 119				
a)	Acknowledgment is made of a clair All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priori 2. Certified copies of the priori 3. Copies of the certified copie application from the Internat	ty documents have be ty documents have be s of the priority docum tional Bureau (PCT Ru	en received. en received in A nents have been ule 17.2(a)).	pplication No received in this National Stage	
2) Noti	nt(s) ce of References Cited (PTO-892) ce of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review rmation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 er No(s)/Mail Date <u>3</u> .		Paper No(s	Summary (PTO-413) s)/Mail Date nformal Patent Application (PTO-152) 	

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-21 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1,8 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Storing unread/already information.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-6, 8-13 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bailey et al USPN (5835084).

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As per claim 1, Bailey et al teach a device for reading electronic mails (device 10, fig. 2), comprising:

a storing unit storing unread/already information corresponding to each of received electronic mails [storage 34, stores received unread email messages addressed (received) to a user col. 3, lines 60-67];

a managing unit managing an electronic mail setting the state of "unread" at a predetermined timing setting [message application 42 organizes email messages and marks them as read or unread (col. 3, lines 60-67) and col. 5, lines 10-32]; and

a controller controlling a management of reading of the electronic mail setting the state of "unread" managed by said managing unit [a processor executes a method for distinguishing between read and unread messages col. 5, lines 15-38].

As per claim 2, Bailey et al teach the device according to claim 1, wherein said storing unit stores state information indicating a state of "unread" or "already-read" of a corresponding electronic mail as the unread/already-read information [col. 5, lines 10-23],

said managing unit creates a list in which a electronic mail of which the corresponding state information stored in said

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storing unit at the predetermined timing indicates the state of "unread" is registered [col. 5, lines 10-32]; and

said controller executes a process for displaying a registered electronic mail in said list on a display according to a request for reading the registered electronic mail [col. 4, 24-32 and col. 5, lines 1-14].

As per claim 3, Bailey et al teach the device according to claim 2, wherein said controller specifies the mail corresponding to the request by use of said list, and displays a body of the specified electronic mail on said display [fig. 4 and col. 5, lines 1-23].

As per claim 4, Bailey et al teach the device according to claim 1, further comprising a display controller displaying a screen for searching the electronic mail managed by said managing unit on said display [fig. 3 and col. 5, lines 1-23].

As per claim 5, Bailey et al teach the device according to claim 4, wherein said list holds information of the plurality of registered electronic mails in predetermined sort order [fig. 3, col. 4, lines 33-44];

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a pointer is set at any one of the information in said list [fig. 3, and col. 4, lines 45-52]; and

said display controller displays the screen for searching an electronic mail registered next to the registered electronic mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer and/or a previous electronic mail of the registered electronic mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer [fig. 3, and col. 4, lines 45-52 and col. 6, lines 21-26].

As per claim 6, Bailey et al teach the device according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined timing is a time point of which reading the body of the electronic mail is requested [col. 4, lines 24-65].

As per claims 8 and 15, these are a storage medium and method claims with similar limitations as claim 1 above. Therefore, they are rejected with the same rationale. See the rejection of Claim 1 above.

As per claims 9 and 16, Bailey et al teach the invention wherein said storing step stores state information indicating a state of "unread" or "already-read" of a corresponding electronic mail as the unread/already-read information [col. 5, lines 10-32],

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said managing step creates a list in which a electronic mail of which the corresponding state information stored in said storing unit at the predetermined timing indicates the state of "unread" is registered [col. 5, lines 10-32]; and

said controlling step executes a process for displaying a registered electronic mail in said list on a display according to a request for reading the registered electronic mail [a processor executes a method for distinguishing between read and unread messages col. 5, lines 15-38].

As per claims 10 and 17, Bailey et al teach the invention wherein said controlling step specifies the mail corresponding to the request by use of said list, and displays a body of the specified electronic mail on said display [fig. 4 and col. 5, lines 1-23].

As per claims 11 and 18, Bailey et al teach the invention, further comprising displaying a screen for searching the electronic mail managed by said managing step on said display [fig. 3 and col. 5, lines 1-23].

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As per claims 12 and 19, these claims have similar limitations as claim 5 above. Therefore, they are rejected with the same rationale. See the rejection of Claim 5 above.

As per claim 13 and 20, Bailey et al teach the invention, wherein the predetermined timing is a time point of which reading the body of the electronic mail is requested [col. 4, lines 24-65].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 4. Claims 7,14 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bailey et al USPN (5835084) in view of Kudoh et al USPN (5948058).

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As per claims 7, 14 and 21, although Bailey et al shows substantial features of the claimed invention including a message window with icon buttons enabling a user to store, reply, forward and print message, he does not explicitly show deleting message list on the basis of a request for an end (end command) for reading an electronic mail. Nonetheless, this feature is well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Bailey et al, as evidenced by Kudoh et al USPN (5948058).

In analogous art, Kudoh et al whose invention is about a system for cataloging and displaying emails, disclose deleting a message list (category of a classified electronic mail) on the basis of a request for an end of reading the electronic mail by a user [Col. 28, lines 48 to col. 29, line 13]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bailey to support mechanism of deleting a list of electronic mails for the flexibility of displaying electronic messages on a desktop and the advantage of improving storage space.

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Conclusion

5. The prior made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin Barqadle whose telephone number is 703-305-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Yasin Barqadle

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Dung C. Dinh Primary Examiner